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Message Text

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TO ALL NATO CAPITALS PRIORITY
INFO AMEMBASSY MADRID PRIORITY
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EXDIS MIL ADDEES HANDLE AS SPECAT EXCLUSIVE

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS:PFOR, NATO, SP

SUBJECT:SPAIN AND NATO

REFS: A. STATE 080158; B. USNATO 1978; C. LONDON 5562
(NOTAL); D. BONN 6020

1. FOR REASONS RELATING BOTH TO STATUS OF US-SPANISH NEGOTIATIONS, AND TO GENERAL DESIRABILITY OF BRINGING SPAIN MORE CLOSELY INTO THE NORTHERN ATLANTIC POLITICAL AND MILITARY FRAMEWORK, US BELIEVES ALLIES SHOULD BE PREPARED IN COMING WEEKS TO CONSIDER ONCE AGAIN SPANISH RELATIONSHIP WITH NATO. WE WOULD ALSO HOPE THAT THE ALLIES WOULD BE WILLING TO JOIN IN SOME PUBLIC ENDORSEMENT OF SPAIN'S IMPORTANCE TO WESTERN DEFENSE, PERHAPS IN THE
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FORM OF A RECOGNITION OF THE VALUE OF THE US-SPANISH RELATIONSHIP TO THE NATO ALLIES.

2. RECENT BRIEFINGS AND DISCUSSIONS IN NATO SERVED TO

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BRING A NUMBER OF ALLIED REPRESENTATIVES UP TO DATE ON US-SPANISH NEGOTIATIONS, AND TO CONVEY SOME OF OUR THINKING ON THE NEED FOR THE ALLIES TO FOCUS AGAIN ON THE QUESTION OF SPAIN IN RELATION TO NATO. IN ORDER TO ENSURE FULL CONSIDERATION IN ALLIED CAPITALS OF OUR VIEWS AND THEIR CONTEXT, WE WOULD LIKE ADDRESSEES TO BRIEF HOST GOVERNMENTS

AT APPROPRIATE LEVEL ALONG LINES OUTLINED BELOW.

3. YOU SHOULD SUMMARIZE OUR GENERAL THINKING ALONG THE FOLLOWING LINES, EMPHASIZING THAT WE ARE SPEAKING FRANKLY AND OUR VIEWS SHOULD BE TREATED WITH APPROPRIATE DISCRETION:

-- ALLIES ARE WELL AWARE OF LONG-STANDING US VIEW THAT SPAIN SHOULD BE TREATED AS PART OF WESTERN DEFENSE SYSTEM. USG HAS ALSO UNDERSTOOD POLITICAL OBSTACLES WHICH HAVE IN PAST PREVENTED ALLIANCE ACTION FAVORING TIES WITH SPAIN. HOWEVER, WE BELIEVE THAT SPAIN'S RELATIONSHIP TO NATO SHOULD BE EXAMINED UNDER PRESENT CIRCUMSTANCES WITH THE OBJECTIVE OF BRINGING SPAIN CLOSER TO THE ALLIANCE, WITH A VIEW TO EVENTUAL MEMBERSHIP.

-- WE BELIEVE IT IS IMPORTANT TO LOOK TO THE FUTURE, AND TO THE IMPORTANCE THAT THE STABLE, PURPOSEFUL FRAMEWORK OF THE NORTH ATLANTIC ALLIANCE CAN PROVIDE TO SPAIN OVER THE COMING YEARS. WE THINK SPAIN WILL BE AIDED IN FOLLOWING A STABLE, MODERATE COURSE IF IT IS BROUGHT INTO THE NATO FRAMEWORK AS EARLY AS CIRCUMSTANCES PERMIT. THE ALLIES IN TURN WOULD ALSO BENEFIT NOT ONLY FROM THE DEFENSE CONTRIBUTIONS THAT SPAIN COULD MAKE, BUT ALSO FROM THE FACT THAT SPAIN WILL BE BROUGHT INTO CLOSER CONTACT WITH ALLIED POLITICAL THINKING, CONSULTA-TIONS, AND HABITS OF WORKING TOGETHER.

-- ANOTHER FACTOR IN OUR CONSIDERATIONS IS THE STATUS OF CURRENT US-SPANISH NEGOTIATIONS. SPAIN HAS MADE A
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STRONG POINT THAT IT WOULD LIKE A CLOSER ASSOCIATION WITH NATO, AS WELL AS SOME RECOGNITION BY THE ALLIES THAT IT, TOO, IS MAKING AN IMPORTANT CONTRIBUTION TO THE DEFENSE OF WESTERN EUROPE. WE ENDORSE THESE THOUGHTS.

-- WE RECOGNIZE THAT SOME ALLIES MAY THINK IT TOO EARLY TO MOVE TOWARD A SPANISH ROLE IN NATO. NONETHELESS, WE THINK IT IMPORTANT TO BEGIN TO INDICATE TO THE SPANISH, AS WELL AS TO OUR OWN PUBLICS, THAT A FUTURE POSSIBILITY FOR A SPANISH ROLE IN THE ALLIANCE EXISTS. WE SHOULD ALSO PREPARE OUR OWN THINKING ON STEPS THAT MAY BE TAKEN IN THE PRESENT ENVIRONMENT THAT WILL PAVE THE WAY FOR A FUTURE SPANISH ROLE IN NATO.

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-- WE LOOK FORWARD TO CANDID, CONSTRUCTIVE DISCUSSION OF THE QUESTION OF SPAIN AND NATO IN THE WEEKS AHEAD.

WE WOULD HOPE FOR
SOME EXPRESSION BY THE ALLIES OF A RECOGNITION OF SPAIN'S

IMPORTANCE TO WESTERN DEFENSE.

4. TO ENSURE THAT ALLIES ARE AWARE OF ISSUES IN US-SPANISH NEGOTIATIONS, YOU MAY DRAW ON REF A, AND YOU MAY ALSO DRAW ON REF B FOR YOUR GENERAL BACKGROUND IN ANY DISCUSSIONS.

5. WE WOULD APPRECIATE PROMPT REPORTING OF ALLIED REACTIONS.

6. FOR LONDON AND BONN: WE BELIEVE THAT MORE THOROUGH CONSULTATION WITH UK AND FRG WOULD BE USEFUL. WE WOULD THUS LIKE YOU TO COVER FOLLOWING ADDITIONAL POINTS. WE RECOGNIZE THAT THERE IS HIGH-LEVEL RELUCTANCE IN LONDON FOR VISIBLE OR OFFICIAL MOVEMENT AT PRESENT TOWARD CLOSER SPAIN/NATO RELATIONSHIP. WE LEAVE TO EMBASSY LONDON'S DISCRETION TO DRAW ON POINTS BELOW WITH UK AT APPROPRIATE LEVEL, BEARING IN MIND AMBASSADOR'S CONVERSATION WITH CALLAGHAN (REF C). EMBASSY BONN MAY WISH TO NOTE THAT WE APPRECIATE FOREIGN MINISTER GENSCHER'S DISCUSSIONS WITH SPANISH DURING HIS RECENT
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VISIT TO MADRID, AND THAT WE WOULD WELCOME ANY THOUGHTS FRG MAY DEVELOP IN DISCUSSIONS IT IS HAVING ON SPAIN AND NATO WITH OTHER ALLIES (REF D).

7. WE WOULD WELCOME CANDID, CONSTRUCTIVE REACTION FROM UK AND FRG TO POSSIBILITIES FOR BILATERAL COOPERATION WITH SPAIN SUCH AS:

-- CLOSER CONTACT BETWEEN THEIR DELEGATIONS AND THE SPANISH EMBASSY IN BRUSSELS ON NATO-RELATED QUESTIONS.

-- EXCHANGE OF VISITS BETWEEN SPANISH MILITARY AND UK AND FRG MILITARY AIMED AT ESTABLISHING GREATER MUTUAL FAMILIARITY, CLOSER MILITARY-TO-MILITARY CONTACTS, AND INCREASED DIALOGUE ON SUBJECTS OF COMMON INTEREST, INCLUDING THOSE RELATING TO NATO DEFENSE.

-- POSSIBILITY OF SPANISH OBSERVERS AT UK AND FRG EXERCISES, OR AT US/FRG EXERCISES THAT TAKE PLACE WITHIN THE FRG.

-- POSSIBILITY OF TRAINING FOR UK OR FRG MILITARY AT

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SPANISH FACILITIES, E.G., FOR AIR FORCE UNITS AT
ZARAGOZA, AND THE POSSIBILITY OF UK OR FRG PARTICIPATION
IN AIR EXERCISES WITH THE SPANISH AIR FORCE IN SPAIN.

8. WE WOULD ALSO LIKE REACTIONS TO FOLLOWING POSSI-
BILITIES FOR STEPS TOWARD A SPANISH/NATO RELATIONSHIP:

-- SOME FORM OF FAVORABLE PUBLIC ALLIED REFERENCE TO THE
IMPORTANCE OF SPAIN TO NATO, PERHAPS THROUGH A REFERENCE
TO THE US-SPANISH DEFENSE RELATIONSHIP, INDICATING THAT
THIS IS IN THE COMMON ALLIED INTEREST OR IS SIMPLY
QTE RECOGNIZED UNQTE BY THE OTHER ALLIES.

-- SPANISH VISITS TO NATO COMMANDS, SUCH AS CINCHAN AND
CENTAG.

-- POSSIBILITY OF SPANISH LIAISON OFFICERS AT SHAPE OR
OTHER NATO HEADQUARTERS.

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-- A LINKAGE BETWEEN NATO'S AIR DEFENSE AND EARLY WARNING
SYSTEM (NADGE), AND SPAIN'S ANALOGOUS COMBAT GRANDE
SYSTEM, WHICH IS TECHNICALLY COMPATIBLE.

9. FOR USNATO: MISSION IS AUTHORIZED TO INFORM LUNS
OF OUR VIEWS AS OUTLINED ABOVE, AS YOU JUDGE APPROPRIATE.

10. WE INTEND TO REINFORCE POINTS IN PARAS 3-5 WITH
DANISH, NETHERLANDS, AND NORWEGIAN EMBASSIES IN
WASHINGTON, AND TO COVER GROUND IN PARAS 5-8 WITH LOCAL
FRG AND UK REPS.

11. FOR LISBON. WE LEAVE TO EMBASSY'S DISCRETION HANDLING
OF DISCUSSION ON SPAIN/NATO ALONG GENERAL LINES SET FORTH
ABOVE, PROVIDING EMBASSY PERCEIVES NO OBJECTIONS. KISSINGER

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